BLANKS

Blanks

The objective of the rinsate blank is to provide a laboratory analytical check on possible sources of contamination of a sample that may be related to equipment decontamination and sample handling procedures. All rinsate blank samples will be collected in the field. Samples will be collected at a rate of one blank per 20 soil samples.

The types of equipment that will have contact with the soil samples and will be decontaminated are steel hand trowels and disposable aluminum trays. The funnel used for transferring the rinsate blank to the sample bottles will also be decontaminated according to procedures. Sample jars and disposable plastic scoops will also come in contact with the soil sample. The rinsate blank procedures will encompass all these pieces of equipment.

Rinsate blanks will be handled, transported and analyzed in the same manner as the soil samples acquired that day. The rinsate blank is collected in the field and therefore may also be used to assess ambient conditions that may potentially affect the sample quality.

Procedures:

At the appropriate field location, de-ionized water is passed over the disposable and decontaminated sample equipment. This equipment includes: hand trowels, disposable aluminum trays, sample jars and disposable plastic scoops.

The water is collected into the disposable aluminum tray and transferred via a funnel to the appropriate sample jars, based on analysis to be performed.

1-liter poly bottle for TAL metals analysis (sample water preserved to a pH of <2 with dilute nitric acid) and sent to CLP Lab.

Two 1-liter amber bottles for Pesticide/PCB and sent to CLP Lab.

Two 1-liter amber bottles for Semi-Volatile Organics and sent to CLP Lab.

All rinsate samples will be packed in coolers and on ice to 4 degrees Celsius.